

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1, 11, and 21 to more clearly describe the claimed invention. Support for these amendments is found in the specification at page 8, lines 3 – 7, and no new matter has been added.

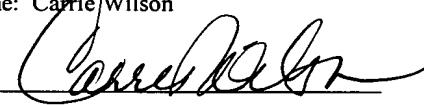
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10001834-1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV482737011US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

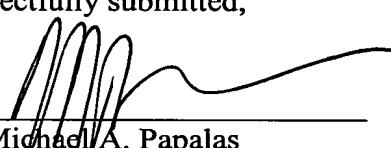
Date of Deposit: June 3, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

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